

REMARKS

The present Amendment adds new claims 33-36 and leaves claims 21-32 unchanged. Therefore, the present application has pending claims 21-36.

It should be noted that new claims 33-36 were added so that the subject matter of canceled claims 5-7 and 20 is re-inserted into the application.

In the Office Action the Examiner alleges that the subject matter of claims 5-7 and 20 as now set forth in new claims 33-36 was elected by original presentation and that claims 21-32 are directed to another invention. Applicants do not agree that claims 21-32 are directed to another invention. However, in order to expedite prosecution of the present application the present Amendment adds new claims 33-36 so that prosecution can proceed with respect to the alleged "elected" invention.

It should be noted that new claims 33-36 each recite additional features of the preset invention not taught or suggested by any of the references of record whether these references are taken individually or in combination with each other.

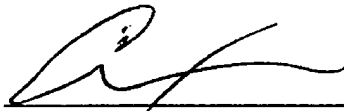
For example, new claim 33 recites that the access limit information indicates permission/rejection of an access to said storage device of the destination by relating the Fiber Channel port of the source and the Fiber Channel port of the destination to a Logical Unit Number of said storage device of the destination, whereas new claims 34 and 36 recite that the information indicating priority indicates priority of a data input/output process of a data input/output process for the storage device connected to the port of the destination of the data frame by relating the Fiber Channel port of the source and the Fiber Channel port of the destination to a delay time after which the data input/output process for the storage device is executed.

The above describe features as now recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by any of the references of record particularly the Ofek references (Ofek'748 and Ofek'444).

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants submit that claims 21-36 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of claims 21-36 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (IIP-5361) please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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